SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: All right, I am not asking.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Sir, it is only a press report and our Government has not got any confirmation from the Government of Bangladesh. Suppose we get the confirmation from that country, then, what will be the strategy of the Government of India? If the Government of Bangladesh really constructed barrage over the Ganga on their side, will it affect the Farakka barrage on this side?

SHRI G. S. DHILLON: Sir, we are basing this reply only on the information. How it will affect Farakka barrage and all that, we are also having apprehensions because of the fact that it is so near to the Farakka area. If this project comes into being, there will be definitely some sort of reaction. But so far the information available with us is such that we cannot give any reply in definite terms.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Not satisfactory.

SHRI VISHAVJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: Mr Chairman, Sir, the fact is that we do not maintain—as far as I am aware — some kind of proper contact with our neighbours on such important matters. For example, I know that much of our problems of the floods in the Uttar Pradesh and Bihar occur because of the deforestation taking place in Nepal which we have not been able to stop through bilateral agreement in spite of various contacts which have taken place at various levels. We have come across alarming reports which have been discussed just now and the Government has shown a cavalier attitude by not giving proper information. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether he is contemplating having a sort of permanent joint committe set up to see that if any such action is taken by our neighbouring country, we must become aware of it in the first instance so that we may take corrective action and our country does not suffer in the long run.

SHRI G. S. DHILLON: Sir, we cannot propose a joint commission just on the basis of press reports.

SHRI H. P. SHARMA: Sir,...

SHRI G. S. DHILLON: Regarding deforestation...

MR. CHAIRMAN: He said as an illustration. It is not a question.

DR. H. P. SHARMA: Mr Chairman Sir, ever since we agreed to broaden the framework of Ganga from bilateral to trilateral framework, may I know whether our Government of India has contacted the friendly Government of Nepal? If so, what are their views?

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is with regard to Bangladesh Government's move to erect a barrage across the Ganga. Next Question.

*331. [*The questioner (Shri Talan Manohar) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 39-40 infra*].

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 332.

Distribution of high-yielding variety of seeds

*332. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the farmers find it difficult to get the right type of seeds in right time because of the faulty distribution system of the high-yielding variety of seeds;

(b) if so, what measures have been undertaken by Government to ensure the timely distribution of the right type of seeds to the farmers;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is always a shortage of the high-yielding variety seeds and that the farmers have to pay premium money for the procurement of seeds;

(d) if so, whether Government are planning to increase the production of the high-yielding varieties of seeds with a view to reduce the difficulties of farmers and to achieve higher production targets;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) what steps Government are considering to protect the farmers from the evil of fake seeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) to (c) Production and distribution of quality seeds including that of high-yielding varieties is primarily the responsibility of the State/Union Territory Governments. However, National Seeds Corporation (NSC), State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI) and Private Seed producers supplement their efforts. The State/Union Territory Governments formulate detailed programmes variety-wise, for seed production/requirements from season to season. Government of India organises zonal seed conferences before the commencement of the Kharif and Rabi seasons in which seed requirements of the State/Union Territory Governments are finalised and arrangements made for their supply. Through this arrangement the seed requirements of the farmers are met by and large. However, there could be occasions when there might be shortage of a particular variety of seed in specific areas of the country. The shortage of any such particular variety of seed could be either due to outbreak of disease or natural calamities or even non-availability of the parent material of that particular variety. The quality seeds are made available to the farmers by NSC, SFCI, State Seeds Corporations (SSCs) and State Agriculture Departments at the prices fixed by the respective Boards of Directors/State Governments concerned.

In order to develop necessary infrastructural facilities for the production and timely availability of quality seeds to the famers throughout the country, the Government of India implemented Seed Projects with the help of World Bank known as National Seed Project-I (NSP-I) and National Seed Project-II (NSP-II). During this period, (from 1976 to 1985) Nine State Seed Corporations have been established in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Haryana, Punjab under NSP-I and Bihar, Karnataka, Orissa Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh under NSP-II.

In order to further strengthen the facilities, Government of India propose to launch Phase-III of the National Seed Project from 1987-88 covering the States of Assam, Gujarat, West-Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and North-Eastern States besides augmenting facilities in the existing project States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, Karnataka, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.

(d) and (e) As a result of the various measures taken by the Govt. from time to time, the distribution of certified/quality seeds has been constantly increasing as is evident from the following table:—

Year	Quantity In Lakh quintals
1984 85	48 46
1985 86	55 0 Likely achievement
1986 87	55 03 Anticipated achievement

However, there has been shortage of quality seeds of some varieties of oilseeds and pulses. All possible efforts are being made to increase the availability of these seeds.

The targets for distribution of certified/quality seeds including those of high yielding varieties has been fixed at 73 lakh quintals for 1987-88 which is considered to be adequate to meet the requirements of certifid/quality seeds of farmers.

(f) To ensure the quality of seeds sold to the farmers, the State/Union Territory Governments are empowered to take various steps as envisaged under the Seeds Act, 1966. The important steps are setting up of the Seed Testing Laboratories, appointment of Seed Inspectors and Seeds Analysts and setting up of the Seed Certification Agencies to certify the seeds. The power to enforce the Seeds Act is vested with the State/Union Territory Governments and prosecution is launched whenever any violation of the provisions of the Seeds Act and Rules is observed.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Sir, my question relates to the faulty distribution system of seeds to the farmers. The Minister has said in his reply that distribution of seeds is the responsibility of the State Government agencies. But there is also National Seeds corporation which is involved in the distribution of seeds and the Ministry of Agriculture is also looking after certain things. It is a fact that there is always shortage of the high-yielding variety seeds and the farmers have to pay premium money for obtaining seeds. May I know from the Minister where the faultlies in the distribution of seeds? This is my real question.

SHRI R. PRABHU: Sir, the hon. Member himself has said that the seeds are distrubuted by the State Governments.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: National Seeds corporation also.

SHRI R. PRABHU: I am coming to that. The National Seeds Corporation and the State Farms Corporation of India also help in the distribution of seeds. If there is any specific complaint hon. Member can write to us then the Government would examine it.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: What about faulty distribution system.

SHRI R. PRABHU: If there is a faulty distribution sytstem the distribution of seeds is the responsibility of the State Governments. Central Government has two agencies—National Seeds Corporation and State Farms Corporation of India which also helps in the distriution of seeds.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Sir, in the body of the answer, it is said that care is taken by the Seeds Violation Act of 1966. It is also mentioned that power to enforece the Seeds Act is vested in the State and the Union Terriory and prosecution is launched whenever any violation of the provisions of the Seeds Act and is observed. Therefore, when such complaints some, I think, the Union Ministry might be drawing the attention of these departments also and when you have mentioned about the violation, do you have some information about how many prosecutions have been launched and what is the conviction figure?

SHRI R. PRABHU: Sir, as far as the Seeds Violation Act, 1966 is concerned, the State Governments are responsible to see if there is any violation and they take samples of seeds and test them and see if there is any violation in the specification or substandard seeds are being produced and distributed. Now as far as the production of samples drawn under the Seeds Violation Act, 1966 is concerned, I have the details. If you want, I can give figures quickly.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, you give information by writing a letter.

SHRI R. PRABHU: Yes Sir, I can give the information by a letter.

श्री राधाकिशन मालवीय : श्रीमन्, अच्छे बीजों के उत्पादन के लिए राष्ट्रीय बीज निगम, भारतीय राज्य फर्म निगम और प्राइवेट बीज उत्पादकों द्वारा रबी एवं खरीफ की फसलों के लिए जो बीज उत्पादन किया जाता है वह किसानों की आवश्यकताओं के अनुसार कितने रकबा या क्षेत्रफल पर किया जा रहा है ताकि आप जून, जुलाई, और सितम्बर, अक्तूबर महीनों के बाद जो किसानों को ऊंचे दामों पर बीज दिया जाता है उसको सरकार सही समय पर और सही दामों पर उपलब्ध करा सके ऐसी कोई व्यवस्था सरकार कर रही है ?

SHRI R. PRABHU: Sir, as far as the Government supplying seeds to the farmers is concerned, the prices of seeds are not subsidised at present and the price at which the Government supply seeds to the farmers is a remunerative price and I do not think that there are many complaints that seeds are being supplied at a higher price. As far as acreage is concerned, I wil not be able to give the details right now but I can give the quantity of seeds produced. In the year 1985-86, the quantity of seeds produced is 1,66641 quintals. (*Interruption*). This is in the whole of the country.

श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह ठाकर : मान्यवर, मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में कहा है और स्वीकार किया है कि जो उत्तम बीजों की व्यवस्था सरकार किसानों के लिए करती है वह पर्याप्त मात्रा में नहीं हो पाती। तो क्या माननीय मंत्री जी कृषकों को उत्तम बीजों के उत्पादन के लिए कोई इंसेंटिव दें और अगर दें तो कितने परसेंट अधिक दाम पर बाजार भाव से उनके आप दाम दे सकेंगे। ताकि अच्छे बीजों की उपलब्धि बढ़ा सके ?

SHRI R. PRABHU: Sir, there are only a few seeds which are not supplied in right quantity to the farmers and these varieties of seeds are oil seeds and pulses, specially, groundnut, soyabeans and grams. For this there are various programmes for increasing the production of these seeds and these seeds will be supplied to farmers.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : माननीय मंत्री जी क्या यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि 73 लाख क्विंटल आपका सप्लाई करने का टारगेट है और 1985-86 में 55 लाख आपने पैदा किया। तो इस टारगेट को पूरा करने के लिए आप क्या कर रहे हैं ? पलसेज और आँयल सीडस जिनकी देश में बहुत कमी है इसके लिए सरकार कोशिश कर रही है ? मैं जानना चाहता हूं . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTION

Development of the Walled city of Delhi

*3211. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply to unstarred question 399 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th February, 1987 and state what are the targets fixed for the current year and the next year for the implementation of the scheme for planned development of the walled city of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): Detailed plans for the development of the Walled City are yet to be finalised. No firm targets have, therefore, yet been fixed. DDA has, how-